

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A hydrogenation catalyst for hydrocarbon oil,  
produced by a method comprising:  
impregnating a refractory [[an]] alumina carrier with a solution comprising a salt of a  
titanium-peroxohydroxycarboxylic acid, then further  
impregnating with an aqueous solution containing at least one metal compound of  
Group 6 and at least one metal compound of Groups 8 to 10 of the Periodic Table so that it  
carries the metal compounds, and thereafter  
calcining it at temperature not higher than 300°C.

Claims 2-5 (Canceled).

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The hydrogenation catalyst for hydrocarbon oil as  
claimed in claim [[2]] 1, wherein the amount of titanium in terms of its oxide form falls  
between 1 and 15% by weight of the refractory inorganic oxide carrier.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The hydrogenation catalyst for hydrocarbon oil as  
claimed in claim 1, wherein the metal of Group 6 of the Periodic Table is molybdenum and  
the metal of Groups 8 to 10 of the Periodic Table is nickel.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The hydrogenation catalyst for hydrocarbon oil as  
claimed in claim 1, which further carries a phosphorus compound along with the metal  
compound of Group 6 and the metal compound of Groups 8 to 10 of the Periodic Table.

Claims 9-59 (Canceled).

Claim 60 (Currently Amended): A hydrogenation catalyst for hydrocarbon oil,  
produced by a method comprising:  
impregnating a refractory ~~alumina carrier~~ alumina carrier with a solution comprising a  
salt of a titanium-peroxohydroxycarboxylic acid, then further  
impregnating with an aqueous solution containing at least one metal compound of  
Group 6 and at least one metal compound of Groups 8 to 10 of the Periodic Table so that it  
carries the metal compounds, and thereafter  
calcining it at a temperature not higher than 300 °C;  
wherein the hydrogenation catalyst for hydrocarbon oil has a ratio,  $x = F_m/F$ , which is  
at least 0.5 in a graph indicating the data of linear analysis of the metal atom in one direction  
obtained through electron probe microanalysis of the cross section of the carrier, and showing  
the relationship between the length,  $t$ , of the cross section in the cross direction of the carrier  
( $t$  indicates the distance from one surface of the carrier) and the X-ray intensity,  $I$ , in which  $F$   
indicates the integral value of the X-ray intensity  $I(t)$  with  $t$  being the distance between one  
surface of the carrier and the other surface thereof, and  $F_m$  indicates the integral value of the  
X-ray intensity  $I_m(t)$  on the line tangential to the X-ray intensity curve at the minimum and  
smallest point of the curve, with  $t$  being also the distance between one surface of the carrier  
and the other surface thereof.

Claim 61 (Previously Presented): The hydrogenation catalyst for hydrocarbon oil as  
claimed in claim 60, wherein the amount of titanium in terms of its oxide form falls between  
1 and 15% by weight of the refractory alumina carrier.

Claim 62 (Previously Presented): The hydrogenation catalyst for hydrocarbon oil as claimed in claim 60, wherein the metal of Group 6 of the Periodic Table is molybdenum and the metal of Groups 8 to 10 of the Periodic Table is nickel.

Claim 63 (Currently Amended): The hydrogenation catalyst for hydrocarbon oil as claimed in claim 60, which further carries a phosphorus compound along with the metal compound of Group 6 and the metal compound of Groups 8 to 10 of the Periodic Table.

Claim 64 (Previously Presented): A hydrogenation catalyst for hydrocarbon oil,  
produced by a method comprising:

impregnating a refractory alumina carrier with a solution comprising a salt of a titanium-peroxohydroxycarboxylic acid, then further

impregnating with an aqueous solution containing at least one metal compound of Group 6 and at least one metal compound of Groups 8 to 10 of the Periodic Table so that it carries the metal compounds, and thereafter

calcining it at temperature not higher than 300°C;

wherein the hydrogenation catalyst for hydrocarbon oil is substantially free of  
chloride.

Claim 65 (Previously Presented): The hydrogenation catalyst for hydrocarbon oil as claimed in claim 64, wherein the amount of titanium in terms of its oxide form falls between 1 and 15% by weight of the refractory alumina carrier.

Claim 66 (Previously Presented): The hydrogenation catalyst for hydrocarbon oil as claimed in claim 64, wherein the metal of Group 6 of the Periodic Table is molybdenum and the metal of Groups 8 to 10 of the Periodic Table is nickel.

Claim 67 (Currently Amended): The hydrogenation catalyst for hydrocarbon oil as claimed in claim 64, which further carries a phosphorus compound along with the metal compound of Group 6 and the metal compound of Groups 8 to 10 of the Periodic Table.

DISCUSSION OF AMENDMENT

Claims 4 and 35-38 have been canceled. Claim 6 has been amended to depend on Claim 1 (since it depended on previously-canceled Claim 2). Remaining amendments are clerical in nature.

No new matter is believed to have been added. Nor are any new issues deemed to be raised. With entry of this amendment, the pending claims will be Claims 1, 6-8, and 60-67.